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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE GROUP 1733 PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q64239

Terrence Martin HINDS, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/782,036

Group Art Unit: 1733

Confirmation No.: 8219 Examiner: John C. Gallagher

Filed: February 14, 2001

For: A METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING A FLOOR COVERING

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

ATTN: BOX AF

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 17, 2002—the period for response having been extended to January 17, 2003 by an appropriate extension of time and check filed herewith—please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 9 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The claims have been amended as follows:

(Twice Amended) A method for manufacturing a floor covering comprising the steps

scattering powder, granules or pellets of a thermoplastic material onto a first substrate to form a first coating;

applying a second substrate over the first coating;